

R E M A R K S

Claim 19, the only claim in the application, has been amended to recite that the image transfer material is a material for receiving, and having fixed thereon, an image formed of a liquid recording material including a reactive silicone material, and that the "at least one component" on the surface thereof is at least one component for chemical reaction with the reactive silicone material. These added recitals are supported by the disclosure of the original specification at p. 12, last two lines - p. 13, line 11; p. 17, lines 7-23; p. 32, line 20 - p. 33, line 18; and Example 21 on pp. 55-56. Since this Amendment does not increase either the total number of claims or the number of independent claims, no additional fee is necessary.

Claim 19 is in the application. No claim has been allowed.

With reference to the rejection of claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Nagase et al., it may initially be noted that Nagase et al. is directed to an intermediate transfer material (a surface on a transfer roller) whereas the image transfer material of claim 19 is a final substrate onto which an image is finally transferred and fixed. This distinction has now been clarified by the amendment of claim 19 described above.

Nagase et al. describes a construction of layers on an intermediate transfer roller. This is a quite different item from the final substrate of the present invention. Moreover, the intermediate transfer material of Nagase et al. has an outer layer of silicone rubber. There is no teaching of any of the specific agents of the present invention on the silicone rubber; and, given the difference in function between an intermediate transfer roller and a final substrate on which an image is finally received and

fixed, it would not be obvious to modify Nagase et al. in any way that would meet or make obvious the invention of amended claim 19.

Therefore, it is submitted that claim 19, especially as herein amended, is not anticipated by Nagase et al. but distinguishes patentably thereover.

Claim 19 has also been rejected under §102(b) as anticipated by Eckell et al. The Eckell et al. patent describes a treatment of a transparent film as a final substrate to give it a surface which will receive a toner image without smudging and upon which the image can be fixed. This is achieved by depositing a layer of a polymeric material. The polymeric material consists of a binder, a polymerizable material and a polymerization initiator. These are reacted to provide a tacky surface to receive the toner image. The polymerization initiator of Eckell et al. is merely used to polymerize the polymeric layer in situ on the film. There is no teaching or suggestion that excess polymerization initiator is present on the surface, for chemical reaction with a reactive silicone material in a liquid recording material. Indeed, Eckell et al. does not teach that a surface can be prepared upon which a reactive silicone based toner can be used.

The specific reagents of the present invention, such as the polymerization initiators, are provided so that the reactive silicone toners can chemically react with them on the final substrate surface. In contrast, the tacky surface of Eckell et al. merely assists with physical adsorption of the toner onto the surface. This distinction has been clarified by the amendment of claim 19 herein, discussed above.

Applicants therefore submit that amended claim 19 is not anticipated by, but distinguishes patentably over, Eckell et al.

For the foregoing reasons it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is accordingly courteously requested.

Respectfully,

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